

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Claims 1-6 (Canceled)

7. (New) A tool replacement method, comprising:
positioning a spindle relative to a nut loosening station;
positioning a receiving hole of a tool holding jig substantially in alignment with a tool associated with the spindle;
rotating the nut relative to the spindle to loosen a chuck of the spindle;
positioning the spindle relative to a nut tightening station;
positioning a replacement tool substantially within the chuck of the spindle; and
rotating the nut relative to the spindle to tighten the chuck of the spindle.

8. (New) The method of claim 7, wherein the positioning of the replacement tool includes:
locating the replacement tool in a tool supply station; and
receiving the replacement tool in a second receiving hole of the tool holding jig.

9. (New) The method of claim 7, further including locking the spindle during the rotation of the nut.

10. (New) The method of claim 9, wherein the locking includes engaging a brake to a rotary flange associated with the spindle.
11. (New) The method of claim 7, further including:
arranging a plurality of replacement tools, each replacement tool occupying a single receiving hole of the tool holding jig; and
providing at least one receiving hole to accommodate the tool associated with the spindle.
12. (New) A tool replacement method, comprising:
positioning a spindle relative to a nut loosening station;
positioning a receiving hole of a tool holding jig substantially in alignment with a tool within a chuck of the spindle;
loosening the tool from the spindle; and
receiving the tool substantially within the receiving hole of the tool holding jig.
13. (New) The method of claim 12, further including placing the tool in a predetermined storage location, upon receiving the tool.
14. (New) The method of claim 12, wherein the loosening further includes rotating a nut relative to the spindle to loosen a chuck of the spindle.

15. (New) The method of claim 12, further including:
positioning a spindle relative to a nut tightening station;
positioning a second tool substantially within a chuck of the spindle; and
tightening the chuck of the spindle.
16. (New) The method of claim 15, wherein the positioning of the
second tool further includes:
locating the second tool within the predetermined storage location; and
receiving the second tool within a second receiving hole of the tool holding jig.
17. (New) The method of claim 15, wherein the tightening further
includes rotating a nut relative to the spindle to tighten a chuck of the spindle.
18. (New) The method of claim 17, further including locking the spindle
during the rotation of the nut.
19. (New) The method of claim 18, wherein the locking includes
engaging a brake to a rotary flange associated with the spindle.

20. (New) The method of claim 12, further including:
- providing a plurality replacement tools, each replacement tool occupying a single receiving hole of the tool holding jig; and
- providing at least one receiving hole to accommodate the tool associated with the spindle.